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25 APR 2005

Date: April 25, 2005 Label No. EV567260160US I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Donald S. Prater
Name (Print)

Donald S. Prater
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Maeda et al.)	Examiner:	Unassigned
)		
Application No.:	Unassigned)	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
)		
Filed:	April 25, 2005)	Confirmation No.:	Unassigned
)		
Docket No.:	3600-504)	Customer No.:	33432

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING METAL POWDER AND METHOD FOR EVALUATING RAW
MATERIAL OR DILUENT SALT FOR USE THEREIN

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 25, 2005

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Pursuant to the current United States Patent and Trademark Office rules, no copies of U.S. Patents/Patent Application Publications are provided.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before expiration of the three-month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 APR 2005

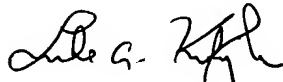
on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: PTO-1449, w/3 Documents

Atty., Docket No. 3600-504

Application No. Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant: Maeda et al.

Filing Date: April 25, 2005

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE, IF APPROPRIATE
	4,149,876	04/17/79	Rerat	75	0.5	
	5,234,491	08/10/93	Chang	75	622	
	5,442,978	08/22/95	Hildreth et al.	75	363	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
95/32313	11/30/95	WIPO	C22B	34/24	YES
4-329808	11/18/92	Japan	B22F	9/24	Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/JP2003/013879, dated February 10, 2004 (in Japanese)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.